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MEXICO.

Typhus fever in the City of Mexico.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, *April 12, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to inclose a clipping from the Mexican Herald, of April 11, for your information, in which it is stated there is an outbreak of typhus fever.

Respectfully,

D. E. DUDLEY,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[For deaths from typhus fever in the City of Mexico see Weekly mortality table, foreign and insular cities, PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS January, February, March, and April.]

Report from Vera Cruz—Danger from smallpox at Merida—Yellow fever at Coatzacoalcos.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, *April 11, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the transactions at this station for the week ended April 6, 1901:

There have been 30 deaths from all causes during the past seven days. La grippe and scarlet fever seem to be quite prevalent and a death has occurred from each of these diseases during the week.

Two cases of yellow fever are reported, one of them being in the military hospital.

During the week 6 vessels were inspected and given bills of health. The Ward Line steamer *Yucatan* sailed for New York via Havana on April 6, with 95 passengers. She was to have sailed on the day before, but a heavy norther springing up suddenly, delayed her departure. The storm broke out in all its fury while the vessel and crew were undergoing inspection, compelling all boats to leave her sides without delay, and detaining your medical officer on board nearly fourteen hours.

The smallpox situation in Merida, Yucatan, is a matter giving much trouble and concern. The Ward Line steamers touch at Progreso on their way to Vera Cruz and on the return trip to Havana, for passengers.

Nearly all passengers taken on at that port come from Merida, and I am informed that almost every dwelling in Merida has been visited by the disease. Unless the passenger baggage for Vera Cruz, as well as the baggage for Havana and New York, is disinfected at Progreso before shipment, the attempt to keep these vessels free from smallpox infection will be of little avail.

Pending the consideration of better arrangements, I have instructed the captains of the Ward Line to stow all Progreso baggage separately and not to permit any of it in the second-class and steerage departments. I doubt if the captains will be able to keep any of the hand baggage out of the first-class cabins, but these passengers from Progreso can be assigned separate and special staterooms. Disinfection of these compartments could be performed on arrival here after the disembarkation of the passengers.

Yellow fever prevails extensively at Coatzacoalcos, a point 125 miles south of Vera Cruz. Reconstructive work is being performed on the railroad running from that point to Salina Cruz, and several thousand Italians are employed upon this work.

These laborers come up to Vera Cruz every week on the coast steamers, many of them with the intention of taking passage to Havana.

I submit with this the weekly mortality report.

Respectfully, D. E. DUDLEY,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Mortality report for the week ended April 6, 1901.

Yellow fever	0	Tuberculosis	3
Smallpox	0	Perniciosa	1
La grippe	1	Malaria	1
Pneumonia	2	All causes	30
Scarlet fever	1		

Report from Progreso.

PROGRESO, MEXICO, *April 6, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended April 5:

There were 6 deaths from all causes, none of which was from any contagious disease. Two of the deaths were from pernicious fever, which seems to be the principal acute disease that is fatal.

There were 4 cases of smallpox reported, all among young children. The disease is of a mild form and no deaths have been reported so far.

I inclose abstract of bills of health for the past two weeks, not having had an opportunity to mail the one for the week ended March 30.

Respectfully, S. H. HODGSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Plague and smallpox in Manila.

MANILA, P. I., *March 12, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the plague situation in Manila remains about the same. During the week ended March 9, 1901, there were reported 7 cases, with 8 deaths. All those affected were Chinese; in fact, the majority of cases occurring during the past two months have been among this class of inhabitants.

During the same period there were 8 cases of smallpox, with no deaths, and a total number of deaths from all causes of 174.

Respectfully, J. C. PERRY,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.